

# STATE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (SIAC)

## December Meeting Summary



**Date | time** December 9, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. | **Meeting Location** virtually via Zoom

**Meeting called to order by** Marta Miranda-Straub,  
Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Chair

## WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

**Marta Miranda-Straub**, Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) and SIAC Chair, welcomed members/alternates and guests to the meeting, then called the meeting to order.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

### Review of November Meeting Summary

**Rachel Bingham** – made a motion to approve. **Melissa Goins** – second to the motion. Motion carried.

### 2021 SIAC Chair

**SIAC Chair Marta Miranda-Straub** reminded the council that the SIAC Chair rotates on January 1, 2021. The Chair Elect is the Youth Member; however, Callie has requested to skip the Chair rotation. Because there is no current Youth Member alternate, the chair role is assumed by the next agency in the progression. Ivy Alexander with the Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs has graciously agreed to assume the role in January.

**Rachel Bingham** made a motion to appoint Ivy as the next SIAC Chair. **Cora McNabb** – second to the motion.

Motion carried. **SIAC Chair Marta Miranda-Straub** informed the council that they need to vote on the revised Chair rotation schedule in SIAC Policy & Procedures. Per SIAC Policy & Procedures, the draft is introduced today, and SIAC will need to vote at the next meeting; she introduced the draft revision and requested that the council send any suggested revisions to Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator.

### Standing Committees and the Social Ecological Model (SEM)

**SIAC Chair Marta Miranda-Straub** invited standing committee Chairs and Staff to discuss which goal the committees are using the SEM to facilitate their work and which elements of the SEM that they have started addressing.

- **Rhonda Logsdon**, Chair of Disabilities Standing Committee, reported their committee is working on the goal of increasing equity in services access and outcomes. Ms. Logsdon reported the committee has decided to meet twice monthly. Their focus is ensuring persons with disabilities and their families have equal access to the services and supports as well as what providers need in order to be successful.
- **Kate Overberg Wagoner**, Chair of Outreach & Promotion Standing Committee, reported the committee will be circling back to the basics, such as what SIAC is and the system of care core values. Ms. Overberg Wagoner reported they are applying the SEM with the goals, and using that framework as they move forward. **Joy Varney**, Staff to Outreach & Promotion, reported the standing committee will meet twice monthly to learn each committee's goals, help build relationships, and improve communication. They plan to visit each standing committee to see how Outreach & Promotion can assist.
- **Pastor Edward Palmer**, Chair of Racial & Ethnic Disparities Standing Committee, reported this model forces the RED Standing Committee to collaborate with the other committees, which will incorporate the racial lens in every aspect of the work. Pastor Palmer discussed how this model connects RED to each SIAC standing committee.
- **Christina Weeter**, Chair of Social and Emotional Health & Wellbeing Standing Committee, reported they have created a structure for how they will align each of their tasks with the SEM. Ms. Weeter reported their standing committee will break into smaller groups to have each group work on different goals then filter it through all of the layers of the model. The groups will reconvene with the standing committee to identify additional

connections. They plan to have a few half-day meetings to expedite the work, as they continue to work on the Social and Emotional Health Task Force's recommendations that SIAC adopted.

## INDICATORS OF SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING: AN UPDATE ON TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION #2

**Christina Weeter**, Chair, and **Vestena Robbins**, Staff, Social and Emotional Health & Wellbeing Standing Committee provided a refresher on SIAC's Social and Emotional Health Task Force and the recommendations from that group. In October 2017, members SIAC signed a joint pledge to prioritize the implementation of strategies aimed at improving the social and emotional health and wellbeing of children, youth, and young adults. The Social and Emotional Health Task Force was responsible for putting forth policy, process, and practice recommendations as the avenue through which this prioritization would be realized. The Social and Emotional Health & Wellbeing Standing Committee is responsible for coordination of efforts; however, it will ultimately be the responsibility of the SIAC members to address implementation barriers and to ensure that recommendations are fully realized. The Social and Emotional Health Task Force recommendations can be located at <http://dbhddid.ky.gov/dbh/documents/siac/sehtf/recommendations.pdf>. The SEH&WB Standing Committee prioritized the recommendations and identified Recommendation #2 Identify Indicators to Assess Social and Emotional Health and Wellbeing among the Children, Youth, and Young Adults and their Families Served by our Agencies and within our Workforce as their starting point. The Standing Committee ultimately finalized a list of 5 key indicators identified for recommendation to the SIAC and created a mock dashboard for consideration by SIAC [*mock dashboard is slide 12 of the presentation that can be found in Meeting Handouts*]. Ms. Weeter and Dr. Robbins posed the following questions to SIAC: What do you like about the dashboard? What changes/improvements would be helpful to support efforts to improve outcomes? What frequency would be helpful? How do we advance our efforts to monitor and improve the social and emotional health and wellbeing of our workforce? Is there a universal approach that could prove useful?

## RIAC COVID-19 FUNDING PROJECT: KENTUCKY RIVER RIAC

**Renee Roberts**, Local Resource Coordinator, and **Beth Halcomb**, RIAC Chair, Kentucky River RIAC, presented on the RIAC's use of COVID-19 grant funding. In addition to COVID, Eastern Kentucky was hit by a severe storm that left their region without electricity for weeks. Some areas went without electricity for a month. This RIAC applied for the grant in order to support these struggling families. Their RIAC focused on non-traditional caregivers. They used the funds to provide small charcoal grills, charcoal, and s'mores supplies as well as community resource information for the families. The RIAC distributed these kits to 105 non-traditional families in their region.

## SIAC MEMBER UPDATES

**Marta Miranda-Straub**, DCBS, reported their department is continuing their work on the five pillars for the vision and mission of building a 21<sup>st</sup> century Cabinet to decrease barriers and increase accessibility and transparency. Pillars: 1. Equity and Social Economic Justice; 2. Trauma and Engaged Healing for our clients and staff; 3. Health, which includes behavioral health and the opioid crisis; 4. Family, Children, and Youth, which includes biological families as well as foster families and Kinship Care; and 5. Operations, Implementation, and Evaluation. Commissioner Miranda-Straub reported there is a 25-member group that represents every position of every region. The workgroup has been working on finalizing a 6-month stability plan. Commissioner Miranda-Straub reported the agency is receiving pushback regarding their decision to cut back on face-to-face family visits; DCBS is using virtual platforms because of the over 10% COVID positivity rate. Commissioner Miranda-Straub reported a focus on staff wellbeing and supporting staff organizationally through policy and around secondary trauma.

**Rachel Bingham**, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), discussed ongoing support for judges and court personnel to change court to virtual platforms. Ms. Bingham talked about some of the challenges they are facing. Ms. Bingham reported the Court Designated Workers program and other programs within her office continue to operate virtually. Ms. Bingham also talked about the collaboration that is accomplished at SIAC and stated she would like to see it at an even grander scale in Kentucky.

**Christina Weeter**, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), reported KDE's Student Advisory Council met this week, and the Commissioner asked their thoughts about going back to school considering COVID. Students discussed how to really balance physical and mental health depending upon if you're in person or virtual, and how that is impacted by your age. Ms. Weeter reported concern regarding a new app that allows students to sell nude photos of other students. KDE is reaching out to other states to learn strategies that others have used to tackle those issues. Ms. Weeter reported they are also working with other Kentucky partners to provide information to adults to have this on their radar. Ms. Weeter reported KDE has trainings scheduled for December and January that prioritize school staff wellness.

**Vestena Robbins**, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), reported there are numerous updates, so a full list will be emailed later today. Dr. Robbins reported Dr. Shambra Mulder joined DBHDID as a Deputy Commissioner. Dr. Robbins reported one component of the School Safety and Resiliency Act required an anonymous reporting line, and many of the reports coming in from that tip line have a mental health component. DBHDID is collaborating with the Center for School Safety, Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Homeland Security, and Department of Criminal Justice Training to determine a systematic and comprehensive response to those tips. Dr. Robbins reminded the council about the Well at Work podcast addressing secondary traumatic stress and building workforce resilience; this and other resources are available to share broadly. Dr. Robbins reported DBHDID, under the leadership of Rashaad, completed a racial equity action plan, which DBHDID will share once it has been finalized. Dr. Robbins reported the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 was signed into Federal law on October 17, and designates 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system will go live in July 2022. The line will connect callers with an accredited local call center; we have nine accredited call centers in Kentucky, and additional call centers in the application process to become accredited. Dr. Robbins reported the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual System of Care (SOC) Academy will be virtual June 8-10, 2021, with the theme Collaboration: Better Together. A call for presentations will be disseminated soon. Dr. Robbins reported DBHDID and Kentucky's Office for Drug Control Policy recently awarded \$1.7 million to seven behavioral health provider agencies to address neonatal abstinence syndrome and almost \$2 million to eight community mental health centers to expand their substance use treatment and recovery supports.

**William Heffron**, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), reported DJJ continues to negotiate a new risk needs assessment, and they are looking at a new database that would provide more feedback on their interventions. Dr. Heffron reported that as of Monday, eight facilities are not accepting new placements due to positive COVID tests.

**Leslie Hoffmann**, Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), reported Medicaid enrollment continues to increase. Medicaid is now serving about 609,000 Kentucky children. Ms. Hoffmann reported there are 150 Michelle P. waiver slots available. DMS continues their work on the incarceration amendment. Ms. Hoffmann reported CMS found their application to be complete with no deficiencies. Their next step is to look at confined children in DJJ custody. DMS is meeting regularly with DJJ to gather information, including data.

**Ivanora Alexander**, Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN), reported Division Director of Clinical Augmentative Services, Karen Mercer is retiring on January 1, and that position will be posted as soon as possible. Ms. Alexander reported their clinics continue to operate via telehealth as well as some onsite services when possible.

**Rhonda Logsdon**, KY-SPIN, Family Organization Representative, provided an update on the issue of respite during school hours. Ms. Logsdon reported Medicaid provided guidance, and it was approved with some restrictions. Ms. Logsdon thanked the SIAC partners that helped resolve this issue for families. Ms. Logsdon will send the letter later today as well as resources about upcoming trainings and webinars.

**Cora McNabb**, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), reported her Division is concentrating on a strategic plan. Ms. McNabb reported they are looking closely at data, and OVR's referrals, applications, and eligibility determinations are down 30%. Ms. McNabb reported OVR continues to telecommute.

**Missy Brownson Ross**, Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), reported they are currently serving 7th, 8th and 12th graders in 12 school districts. Ms. Brownson Ross reported they are struggling with senior participation in tasks like filling out FASFA.

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- RIAC: Updates on COVID-19 Funding Impact on the Regions – Bluegrass RIACs and LIACs – January
- Family- & Youth-Driven Workgroup – Carol Cecil, KPFC – January

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Marta Miranda-Straub**, SIAC Chair, asked for any public comment. Pastor Palmer reported the next policy panel on January 6, 2021, will focus on disrupting the school to prison pipeline, and the Christian County Capstone Project team will be the panelists. This is a result of our fellowship with the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform and Georgetown University, who are doing work to intentionally address racial and ethnic disparities in the school system as well as in the juvenile justice system.

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 | 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST  
Location: Zoom

## ADJOURNMENT

**Vestena Robbins** made a motion to adjourn. **Ivy Alexander** – second to the motion. Motion passed.

## SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

TASK:	RESPONSIBLE PARTY:
Review draft revision to SIAC Policy & Procedures. Send any suggested revisions to <a href="mailto:Lea.Taylor@ky.gov">Lea.Taylor@ky.gov</a> .	SIAC Members/Designees
Review SEH&WB's mock dashboard. Provide feedback to <a href="mailto:Christina.Weeter@education.ky.gov">Christina.Weeter@education.ky.gov</a> and <a href="mailto:Vestena.Robbins@ky.gov">Vestena.Robbins@ky.gov</a> .	SIAC Members/Designees

## IN ATTENDANCE

### Members/Designees:

Marta Miranda-Straub, DCBS

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN

Rachel Bingham, AOC

Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative

Melissa Goins, FRYSC

Kristen Martin, DPH

Vestena Robbins, DBHDID

Cora McNabb, OVR

Ivanora Alexander, OCSHCN

William Heffron, DJJ

Missy Brownson Ross, CPE

### Non-voting Representatives:

Christina Weeter, KDE

Leslie Hoffmann, DMS

**Staff:** Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, DBHDID Lori Ramage, Administrative Specialist, DBHDID

Vanessa Brewer, RIAC Administrator, DBHDID

### Guests:

*See Attached Zoom Report*